

5
**SYSTEM AND METHOD OF SECTION CUTTING
AND ANALYSIS OF A COMPUTER MODEL**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method of section cutting and analysis of a computer model is provided. The method includes the steps of selecting a computer generated model of a structural member and locating at least 10 a first cutting plane and a last cutting plane on the model, such that the first and last cutting planes define a cutting path and cutting the model into at least one section along the cutting path. The method also includes the steps of maintaining the section 15 in a memory of the computer system and analyzing the section using a computer aided engineering (CAE) analysis. The method further includes the steps of determining if the CAE analysis of the section meets a predetermined criteria, modifying the section 20 if the section does not meet the predetermined criteria and using the section in the design of the model if the section meets the predetermined criteria.